

ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

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CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENT.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COMMODORE ELLIOTT'S CASE.

February 22, 1839—Read and laid upon the table.

REPORT OF THE MAJORITY.

Mr. Naylor, under the direction of the majority of the committee, to whom was referred the report of the Secretary of the Navy, containing the charges of Passed Mid. Barton against Capt. Jesse D. Elliott, of the U. States navy, and who were appointed, under the resolution of the House of the 14th instant, to inquire into the official conduct of the said Elliott, while in command of the squadron in the Mediterranean, and particularly into the allegations of tyranny and oppression towards the officers of his command, reports the following resolutions:

Resolved, That an interference by the House of Representatives in the disputes that occur between subordinate officers of the navy and their superiors, commanding squadrons, is a power which ought at all times to be exercised with great caution, and is calculated to produce insubordination in that important arm of the national defence; but in the opinion of this committee, it is competent for the representatives of the people to investigate any abuses alleged to be committed by officers in command of squadrons, and to provide, by law, against a recurrence of such abuses; and, moreover, to investigate and ascertain whether the head of the Navy Department may have used such means as are placed in his hands by law to punish and prevent any such alleged abuses.

Resolved, That the most appropriate remedy for such subordinate officers, is an appeal to the Secretary of the Navy for a court of inquiry to investigate the charges exhibited against their superiors; and, from this decision, the party aggrieved may appeal to the President, who, by the constitution, is commander-in-chief of the navy; he, as well as the Secretary, being liable to impeachment for a wilful or corrupt violation or neglect of duty.

Resolved, That the time allowed this committee is insufficient to enable them to make a full and thorough examination of the subject committed to them; that even a limited and partial examination would require them, contrary to the duty they owe to their immediate constituents, and to the country at large, to be absent daily, during the sittings of the House, at this important period of the session.

Resolved, therefore, That it is inexpedient to commence the investigation at this time, and that the chairman report these resolutions, with the journal of our proceedings, to the House, together with the opinion of this committee, that the subject-matter referred to them by the resolution of the House of the 14th instant, requires investigation, and that he ask that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

REPORT OF Messrs. NAYLOR AND CHAMBERS.

The undersigned, two of the minority of the Special Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Secretary of the Navy, containing the charges of Passed Midshipman Barton, against Captain Jesse D. Elliott, of the United States navy, and who were appointed, under the resolution of the House of the 14th instant, to inquire into the official conduct of the said Elliott while in command of the squadron in the Mediterranean, and particularly into the allegations of tyranny and oppression towards the officers of his command, submit the following report:

The undersigned, differing with the majority of the committee, as to the propriety of not commencing the investigation at this late stage of the session, and as the report of the majority will be preserved among the records of the House, they feel it due to

themselves to place by its side evidence of an equally permanent character, that, in their opinion, the time allowed by the House for the prosecution of the inquiry was sufficient for the purpose, and that it was the imperative duty of the committee at once to have proceeded with it.

The complaints against Captain Jesse D. Elliott are strong and numerous, and the committee all agree that they require investigation. They have been made and circulated in various forms through the country, and, so far as they have reached the ears of the undersigned, through letters, personal communication with individuals who, from their situation, are likely to be acquainted with the facts, and from the public prints, may be put down as follows:

He is charged with the most cruel, inhuman, and brutal conduct towards Passed Midshipman Barton, when sick and wounded; causing him to be dragged from his cot and removed from his vessel, at the most imminent peril of his life, at a time when he was racked with agonizing pain; and that, too, against the earnest remonstrance of his surgeon and the most affecting appeal from the sufferer.

He is charged with ungentlemanly and unofficer-like conduct towards his officers; with oppressing, disgracing, and confining them without cause and without accusation; and, when so confined and disgraced, with denying to them a trial, and refusing to communicate to them the cause of his displeasure.

He is charged with endeavoring to bolster up his reputation, and to enrich and sustain himself against the charges of his officers, by procuring to be wrung from the hard-earned pittance of his crew costly presents of plate.

He is charged with importing in his frigate large numbers of asses, horses, and other animals, as merchandise, with a view to promote his own private gains; for the sustenance and accommodation of such animals, he has deprived his officers and crew of their rightful and necessary quarters, and sacrificed their health, comfort, and safety, besides exposing his ship to the dangers of conflagration, and rendering her, for the time, utterly unfitted for action.

He is charged with taking such course in his command as tended to induce mutiny among the crew, and, when the mutiny broke out, with omitting to take such manly and officer-like measures as were necessary for its suppression.

He is charged with oppressing his officers with vexatious and causeless court martials; with violating the Constitution of the United States, by receiving presents from foreign powers; and with daily acts of petty tyranny, unofficer-like, and ungentlemanly conduct.

He is charged with gathering together *ex-parte* affidavits, letters, and papers, to crush such of his officers as complain of his injuries, and lodging them in the Navy Department against them, thereby deceiving the Department and the people, doing gross injustice to the complainants, as well as to his own honor; instead of meeting his accusers, with the front of conscious innocence, before a competent tribunal, and wiping from his name, if possible, the stain which such charges attach to it.

These charges have, some of them, been made to the Navy Department, and present, as the committee agree, a case requiring investigation.

The undersigned are of opinion that investigation into alleged abuses and oppressions such as these, is among the highest duties of the representatives of the people. They cannot think, with the majority of the committee, that the early termination of the

session should have formed an excuse for the non-performance of this important duty; but, on the contrary, that the investigation should have been made at all sacrifices of time and ease; justice should have been done as well to the accused as to the accusers; the truth or falsity of these charges ought to have been made manifest, if all the remaining days and nights of the session should have been consumed in the labor. There were no duties paramount to it—the vindication of violated rights is of the very first importance.

In the opinion of the undersigned, the committee might have completed the investigation, and had, also, time for the performance, in the fullest manner, of all their Congressional duties. By sitting early in the mornings and late in the evenings, they might have appropriated six or seven hours a day to the purposes of their inquiry, and have been ever present during the sittings of the House; a time which, if the investigation had been proceeded in when the committee first organized, would have been ample for a thorough evisceration of the whole case.

Having thus briefly stated their views of what they conceived to be the duties of the committee, and protesting against being held to a responsibility for the non-performance of that which they believed to be a solemn obligation, due to the navy and the country, and imposed upon the committee by an almost unanimous vote of the House of Representatives, they have done all that they proposed to themselves in making this report.

CHARLES NAYLOR,
JOHN CHAMBERS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19, 1839.

REPORT OF MR. LYON.

The undersigned, a member of the committee appointed under the resolution of the House of the 14th February, "to inquire into the official conduct of Captain Jesse D. Elliott, of the United States navy, while in command of the squadron in the Mediterranean, in the years 1837 and 1838, and particularly into the allegations of tyranny and oppression towards the officers under his command," dissented from the majority of the committee, in declining, for the reasons stated in their report and resolutions, to proceed with the investigation, and in asking to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject. The committee having made no progress in the investigation, the undersigned has had no opportunity of ascertaining the precise nature of the complaints made against the conduct of Captain Elliott, and, of course, has no opinion to express thereon, either favorable or unfavorable.

The House of Representatives having, by the resolution under which the committee was organized, made it their duty to make the investigation, the undersigned was willing, so far as he was concerned, to proceed in the execution of the order of the House; and to prosecute the same to as early a termination as the importance of the subject, the character of the navy, and the rights of the officer implicated, would authorize.

He considered it due to the House, to the country, and to the officer whose conduct is involved in the inquiry, that complaints such as have been made in debate, and such as seem to be implied by the resolution, should undergo a full and thorough investigation, and, if found to be true, the corrective should be applied. If found untrue, it is important that the officer complained of should be relieved from censure.

F. S. LYON.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE CASE OF CAPTAIN ELLIOTT.

COMMITTEE-ROOM OF CLAIMS,

Saturday morning, Feb. 16, 1839.

The committee organized. Present, Messrs. Chambers, Hamer, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory, McClure, and Naylor—being all the members.

Mr. Chambers offered the following resolution:

(No. 1.) *Resolved*, That the chairman transmit to the Secretary of the Navy the resolution of the House of Representatives, under which this committee has been organized, and inform him that the committee require the attendance of Passed Midshipmen Charles Steedman and James W. Cooke, and Midshipmen Charles E. Flemming, Francis Haggerty, and Charles Wager, of the navy, before them, as witnesses, at as early a day as they can be brought to the seat of Government, and request the Secretary to order their attendance accordingly, if in the United States; and if any of them are not within the reach of orders from his Department, or their residence at present be unknown, that he will so inform the committee.

To this resolution Mr. Lyon moved to add the following as an amendment:

"And that the chairman of this committee, also, transmit to Commodore Elliott a copy of the resolution of inquiry adopted by the House, and inform him of the organization of this committee, and of their readiness to allow him to appear before them and cross-examine witnesses, and introduce such as he may desire to offer in relation to the matters of inquiry referred to the committee; and that the chairman, moreover, be authorized to request the Secretary of the Navy to countermand any order of his department which will cause the immediate departure from the country of any witness or witnesses deemed important by the said Commodore Elliott."

This amendment was unanimously adopted.

When, the question being put upon the resolution as amended, it was lost: yeas 3, noes 4. Those who voted in the affirmative are, Chambers, Lyon, and Naylor. Those who voted in the negative are, Hamer, Ingham, Mallory, and McClure.

Mr. Mallory offered the following resolution:

(No. 2.) *Resolved*, That the chairman transmit to the Secretary of the Navy the resolution of the House of Representatives, under which this committee has been organized, and that the chairman of the committee also transmit to Commodore Elliott a copy of the resolution of inquiry adopted by the House, and inform him of the organization of this committee, and of their readiness to allow him to appear before them, and cross-examine witnesses, and introduce such as he may desire to offer, in relation to the matters of inquiry referred to the committee; and that the chairman, moreover, be authorized to request the Secretary of the Navy to countermand any order of his Department which will cause the immediate departure from the country of any witnesses deemed important, and that the following named gentlemen are deemed important as witnesses, viz: Passed Midshipmen Charles Steedman and James W. Cooke, and Midshipmen Chas. E. Fleming, Francis Haggerty, and Charles Wager.

And the question being put, it was passed in the affirmative: yeas 6, nays 1. Messrs. Chambers, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory, McClure, and Naylor, voting in the affirmative; and Mr. Hamer in the negative.

Mr. Naylor offered the following resolution:

(No. 3.) *Resolved*, That the chairman be directed to request the Secretary of the Navy to communicate to this committee, at as early a period as practicable, copies of all charges made against Commodore Elliott to the Navy Department, during his command of the squadron in the Mediterranean, and of all papers and documents relating to such charges, other than those heretofore communicated to the House of Representatives during the present session.

The question being put on this resolution, it was passed in the affirmative: ayes 6, nays 1. Messrs. Chambers, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory, McClure, and Naylor, voting in the affirmative; and Mr. Hamer voting in the negative.

When, on motion of Mr. Mallory, the committee adjourned to meet on Monday, the 18th inst., at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

CHARLES NAYLOR, *Chairman*.

COMMITTEE-ROOM ON NAVAL AFFAIRS,
Monday, Feb. 18, 1839.

The committee met at 10 A. M., in pursuance of adjournment. Present, Messrs. Chambers, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory, McClure, and Naylor.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Mr. Chambers offered the following resolution :

(No. 4.) *Resolved*, That the chairman obtain from the Navy Department the names of the officers of the squadron recently under the command of Captain Jesse D. Elliott in the Mediterranean, and their present situations and residences, and whether on distant service or not.

The question being put on the resolution, it was unanimously passed in the affirmative.

Mr. Hamer then appeared.

Mr. Naylor offered the following resolution :

(No. 5.) *Resolved*, That the chairman of the committee be directed to request the Secretary of the Navy to issue an order for the attendance before this committee, at as early a period as practicable, of the following named officers of the United States navy : Lieut. John Colbourn, Passed Midshipman Charles Crillon Barton, and Lieut. Hunter.

Mr. Hamer moved to amend the resolution, by striking out all after the word "*Resolved*," and adding the following :

That an interference by the House of Representatives, in the disputes that occur between the subordinate officers of the navy and their superiors commanding squadrons, is an injudicious exercise of power, if not an encroachment upon the rights of the Executive, and is calculated to produce insubordination in that important arm of the national defence.

Resolved, That the appropriate remedy for such subordinate officers, is an appeal to the Secretary of the Navy for a court of inquiry to investigate the charges exhibited against their superiors; and from this decision the party aggrieved may appeal to the President, who, by the constitution, is commander-in-chief of the navy; he, as well as the Secretary, being liable to impeachment for a wilful or corrupt violation or neglect of duty.

Resolved, That there is no evidence before this committee of a refusal, by the present Secretary of the Navy, to perform his duty in relation to any charges against Commodore Jesse D. Elliott.

Resolved, That the time allowed this committee (two weeks) is insufficient to enable them to make a full and thorough examination of the subject committed to them; that even a limited and partial examination would require them, contrary to the duty they owe to their immediate constituents, and to the country at large, to be absent, daily, during the sittings of the House at this important period of the session; and their proceedings, when published, would probably do great injustice to the persons concerned.

Resolved, therefore, That it is inexpedient to commence the investigation; and that the chairman report these resolutions to the House, and ask that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

On motion of Mr. Mallory, the committee adjourned until to-morrow morning the 19th inst., at 10 o'clock. Ayes 5, nays 2.

Messrs. Ingham, Hamer, Lyon, Mallory, and McClure, in the affirmative; and Messrs. Chambers and Naylor in the negative.

So the committee adjourned.

CHARLES NAYLOR, *Chairman*.

COMMITTEE-ROOM ON NAVAL AFFAIRS,
Tuesday, Feb. 19, 1839.

The committee met at 10 o'clock, A. M., in pursuance of adjournment. All the members of the committee present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The subject before the committee being the amendment moved by Mr. Hamer yesterday to Mr. Naylor's resolution, Mr. McClure asked that the ques-

tion be taken separately upon each resolution of the amendment.

The first resolution of the amendment being under consideration,

Mr. Lyon moved to add to the end thereof the following: "but, in the opinion of this committee, it is competent for the representatives of the people to investigate any abuses alleged to be committed by officers in command of squadrons, and to provide by law against a recurrence of such abuses; and moreover to investigate and ascertain whether the head of the Navy Department may have used such means as are placed in his hands by law to punish and prevent such alleged abuses."

The question being put on Mr. Lyon's amendment to the amendment, it was adopted: yeas 6, nays 1.

Those who voted in the affirmative are, Messrs. Chambers, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory, McClure, and Naylor. The one voting in the negative is Mr. Hamer.

Mr. Mallory moved further to amend the first resolution of Mr. Hamer's amendment, by striking out, after the word "power," the words "if not an encroachment upon the rights of the Executive."

Which amendment to the amendment was adopted: yeas 6, nays 1.

All the committee voting in the affirmative but Mr. Hamer, who voted in the negative.

Mr. Lyon moved further to amend the amendment, by striking out the words "an injudicious exercise of power," and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following: "is a power which ought, at all times, to be exercised with caution."

The question being put on Mr. Lyon's amendment to the amendment, it was adopted; yeas 6, nays 1.

Those who voted in the affirmative are, Messrs. Chambers, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory, McClure and Naylor; and he who voted in the negative is Mr. Hamer.

The question then being put on the amendment as amended, it was passed in the affirmative: yeas 5, nays 2.

Messrs. Ingham, Hamer, Lyon, Mallory, and McClure voting in the affirmative; and Messrs. Chambers and Naylor in the negative.

The second resolution of Mr. Hamer's amendment being under consideration,

Mr. Lyon moved to insert, in the first line, after the word "the," the word "most," which motion was adopted: yeas 4, nays 3.

Messrs. Chambers, Lyon, Mallory, and Naylor, voting in the affirmative; and Messrs. Hamer, Ingham, and McClure, in the negative.

The question being then put on the second resolution of amendment as amended, it was passed in the affirmative: yeas 5, nays 2.

Messrs. Hamer, Ingham, Lyon, Mallory and McClure voting in the affirmative; and Messrs. Chambers and Naylor in the negative.

Mr. Hamer then withdrew the third resolution of his amendment.

The fourth resolution of amendment being under consideration, Mr. Hamer modified it, by striking out the words "two weeks."

Mr. Mallory moved to amend it, by striking out the following concluding words of it: "and their proceedings, when published, would probably do great injustice to the persons concerned."

And the amendment to the amendment was carried: yeas 4, nays 3.

Messrs. Chambers, Lyon, Mallory, and Naylor voting in the affirmative; and Messrs. Hamer, Ingham, and McClure in the negative.

The question being then put on the amendment as amended, it was carried in the affirmative: yeas 4, nays 3.

Messrs. Hamer, Ingham, Mallory, and McClure

voting in the affirmative; and Messrs. Chambers, Lyon, and Naylor in the negative.

The fifth resolution being under consideration,

Mr. Mallory moved to amend it, by striking out all after the words "*Resolved, therefore,*" and inserting the following: "That it is inexpedient to commence the investigation at this time; and that the chairman report these resolutions, with the journal of our proceedings, to the House, together with the opinion of this committee that the subject matter referred to them by the resolution of the House of the 14th instant, requires investigation, and that he ask that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject."

The question being put on this amendment to the amendment, it was carried in the affirmative: yeas 6, nays 1.

Messrs. Ingham, Lyon, Chambers, McClure, Mallory, and Naylor voting in the affirmative; and Mr. Hamer in the negative.

The question being then put on the fifth amendment, as amended, it was passed in the affirmative: yeas 4, nays 3.

Messrs. Ingham, Hamer, McClure, and Mallory voting in the affirmative; and Messrs. Chambers, Lyon, and Naylor in the negative.

The question then recurred on the resolution of Mr. Naylor, as amended; and being taken, was carried in the affirmative: yeas 4, nays 3.

Those who voted in the affirmative are, Messrs. Hamer, Ingham, Mallory, and McClure. Those who voted in the negative are, Messrs. Chambers, Lyon, and Naylor.

The following is the form in which the resolutions passed:

Resolved, That an interference by the House of Representatives in the disputes that occur between subordinate officers of the navy and their superiors commanding squadrons, is a power which ought at all times to be exercised with great caution, and is calculated to produce insubordination in that important arm of the national defence; but, in the opinion of this committee, it is competent for the representatives of the people to investigate any abuses alleged to be committed by officers in command of squadrons, and to provide by law against a recurrence of such abuses; and, moreover, to investigate and ascertain whether the head of the Navy Department may have used such means as are placed in his hands by law, to punish and prevent any such alleged abuses.

Resolved, That the most appropriate remedy for such subordinate officers, is an appeal to the Secretary of the Navy for a court of inquiry to investigate the charges exhibited against their superiors; and from this decision the party aggrieved may appeal to the President, who, by the constitution, is commander-in-chief of the navy; he, as well as the Secretary, being liable to impeachment for a wilful or corrupt violation or neglect of duty.

Resolved, That the time allowed this committee is insufficient to enable them to make a full and thorough examination of the subject committed to them; that even a limited and partial examination would require them, contrary to the duty they owe to their immediate constituents, and to the country at large, to be absent, daily, during the sittings of the House, at this important period of the session.

Resolved, therefore, That it is inexpedient to commence the investigation at this time; and that the chairman report these resolutions, with the journal of our proceedings, to the House, together with the opinion of this committee, that the subject-matter referred to them by the resolution of the House of the 14th inst., requires investigation; and that he ask that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

CHARLES NAYLOR, *Chairman*.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE,
Naval Committee-room, Feb. 20, 1839.

The committee met at 10 o'clock, A. M. All the members present but Messrs. Hamer and McClure.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read, amended, and then affirmed; and the committee adjourned *sine die*.

CHARLES NAYLOR, *Chairman*.

BIOGRAPHY.

SKETCH OF GEN. ROGER NELSON.

BY A CITIZEN OF FREDERICK CO., MARYLAND.

"Sword which sleepest in thy sheath,
Hear'st thou not the trumpet's breath,
Where the column, deep with death,
 Tarries for thy crest!
Know'st thou not the lot is thine
Glittering in the sun to shine,
Foremost mid the forming line!
Wake thee from thy rest."

Patten.

Perhaps no single county in any State of our Union, furnished better soldiers in the war of independence than Frederick county, Maryland. From this favored spot issued forth to the bloody field O. H. Williams, Beatty, Ford, Weltner, and Everheart; who either ended their career in the storm and fury of battle, or triumphed in the shout of victory. To this patriotic band should be added ROGER NELSON, who was born near the Point of Rocks on the Potomac, in 1762, and in 1780 entered as a cadet in the old Maryland line, which for courage and discipline was hardly exceeded by Caesar's tenth legion, or the imperial guards of Napoleon. In the summer of this year he was united to the southern army, now commanded by Gen. Gates, the conqueror of the ill-fated Burgoyne. The American General left his country seat in Berkeley county, Virginia, in July of this year, and reached head quarters on the 25th, where the command of the troops was surrendered into his hands by the Baron De Kalb. Great distress prevailed; ammunition, arms, and provisions were wanted; the militia were undisciplined; the inhabitants disaffected; the country laid waste by a victorious foe; our countrymen slaughtered by the relentless legion of Tarlton; families flying in grief and despondency, and several of the southern States in the actual occupation of the royal army. Gates took his position at Rugeley's mills, Lord Rawdon at Camden. Cornwallis himself arrived on the 15th of August, and assumed the command. Both armies took up the line of march about half past two in the morning of the 16th August, 1780, and met unexpectedly in the woods, where considerable skirmishing continued for some time, eventuating in some loss and much confusion among our troops. From this disastrous commencement they seem not to have recovered during the day. Gates displayed but little skill, either in the plan of battle or its execution. The continentals under Smallwood, Stevens and De Kalb performed deeds of daring on that day worthy of their former fame. Neither the shameful flight of the militia, nor the destructive fire of the British van, could induce them to yield the battle field, until nearly 400 were slain, and many hundreds wounded and taken prisoners. The brave Baron, with all the composure of a philosopher, and the calm fortitude of an accomplished soldier, yielded up his spirit on the spot where he fell, with the most ardent prayers for the prosperity of the country, to obtain whose independence he had left his native land, and encountered all the accidents "of flood and field."

In this disastrous conflict, young Nelson fought with all the native intrepidity of his character. In the retreat he was wounded and fell. A merciless band of the enemy surrounded him, and before their vengeance was gratified, he received several flesh wounds. In vain did he cry for quarters; their response was, "we will quarter you." Weltering in blood, exposed to the vertical sun, without any assistance or refreshment of any sort, he lay on the sand until life was almost extinct. He

was, however, providentially discovered, his wounds dressed, and borne away a prisoner to Charleston, South Carolina. He is now in the hands of an exulting and triumphant enemy, far from his friends and fellow soldiers, ignorant of his future fate; depending for the restoration of his health on the care of those who felt no interest in the result; his beloved Maryland line dispersed amid the disastrous reverses of war; many of his companions, to whom he was attached by the tenderest ties, slain or captured; the star of his country obscured by clouds, and the hope of liberty nearly extinguished.

In this sad and painful condition of body and mind, young Nelson continued for some months, until he was exchanged, and was soon after appointed lieutenant in the regiment of cavalry commanded by the celebrated Col. William Washington, than whom Murat himself was neither more brave or skillful. His wounds being now healed, he entered on the duties of his rank with zeal and enthusiastic ardor. His chief, alone, was a tower in the day of peril; he inspired every bosom and nerved every arm. When the bugle sounded for battle, each soldier watched the eye of their Colonel, and panted for the contest as they beheld, in his manly visage, the spirit of patriotism animating and lighting up every feature of his noble countenance. It was the good fortune of Nelson to serve under the chivalric Colonel at Guilford Court House on the 15th March, 1781. Greene was now the successor of the ill-starred Gates, and after a great variety of military manœuvres, which alike signalized the skill both of himself and Cornwallis, those two accomplished commanders resolved this day to try once more the fortune of war. The royal army was composed of the best troops, led by the bravest officers; at the head of the American army was Greene, second to none but the father of his country, whom none could equal. Greene selected his ground very advantageously, and made the most skilful disposition of his forces. His right flank was commanded by Col. Washington. Leslie, Webster, O'Hara, and Cornwallis brought up their troops with admirable coolness and skill, and attacked our line with their usual bravery and perseverance. The battle soon raged with fury; the best troops of both armies met in deadly strife; the roar of artillery and small arms was heard throughout the surrounding country. Victory seemed doubtful; the shout of advancing columns re-echoed through the neighboring woods. For more than two hours the contest was every moment more terrible, and the patriotic bosom of Greene alternately filled with the bright visions of hope, and the suggestions of despair. In the midst of the engagement, Washington charged the British guards with great fury, and broke their ranks. Sergeant Everheart, who had been prevented from participating in the conflict from severe wounds received at the Cowpens on the preceding 17th Jan., (the good old man yet resides in Middletown valley,) says that he witnessed the charge from the top of an hill, where Washington had left him for the protection of the baggage wagons. He declares it was one of the most splendid feats which occurred during the war. At this moment the infantry rushed to the aid of the cavalry, and the slaughter of the British was severe. It was now that Capt. Smith, of Baltimore, cut down the commander of one of the battalions of the enemy. The circumstances were related to me by the late Col. Anderson, of Montgomery county, who fought on that day as a captain in Gunby's regiment. He happened to be very near when the event occurred. Smith had been captured at Camden, and while a prisoner had been cruelly treated by this very officer; when bidding him adieu on his exchange, Smith sternly remarked: "if the fortune of war should ever bring us in conflict in the same field, be assured that your tyranny shall be surely repaid." On the day prior to the battle of Guilford, Anderson saw Smith busily

engaged in sharpening his sword, with the fixed purpose of fulfilling his threat should opportunity offer. That determination was fatally gratified, for he fell a lifeless corpse at the feet of the injured American.

Military men agree that the battle of Guilford was a well fought action, and that both armies were alike brave and undaunted. Nelson conducted himself with courage and coolness throughout the whole conflict. Our loss in killed, wounded and missing, was 14 commissioned officers, and 312 non-commissioned officers and privates; that of the enemy 532, among whom were Lieutenants Colonel Stewart and Webster, two of the finest officers in the army of Cornwallis. Greene, it is true, retreated, but only with the view of soon again seeking battle with his highly gifted adversary. From this time the hostile armies were constantly engaged in the boldest efforts of partizan warfare; in recruiting and disciplining their troops; in carrying on the siege of Ninety Six, and in harassing each other by all the stratagems of warfare. In the Carolinas and Georgia, the civil war in the summer of 1781 raged with unmitigated fury and virulence. Lord Rawdon left America early in the fall for England, and the command devolved on Lieutenant Col. Stewart. On the morning of the 8th of Sept., 1781, at the Eutaw springs, the two armies met. Greene arranged his forces with much skill. Washington, with his cavalry, and the infantry of Kirkwood, formed his corps de reserve. As the continental troops came into the engagement, Washington was ordered to act on the left. After viewing the situation of the enemy, he determined to turn their right flank, commanded by Majoribanks, and to charge its rear. In this charge, to the unspeakable mortification of Lieut. Nelson, he saw his gallant commander wounded, his horse killed under him, and ere he could be disengaged, taken prisoner. This obstinate battle lasted nearly four hours; the loss on each side was estimated at about one thousand, and but for the protection afforded the British troops, who sheltered themselves in a brick house, whence they destroyed great number of our men at every fire, the royal army must have been cut in pieces, or have surrendered at discretion. Thus ended the brilliant affair at Eutaw, unequalled by any other engagement during the Revolution. The British power in the south was at once annihilated. Confidence in the justice of our cause and the valor of our troops was restored and increased, and peace began to dawn once more on our distracted and impoverished country. Lieut. Nelson, however, still remained with the army until it was disbanded after the capitulation of Yorktown.

Through these various and appalling scenes he had passed before he attained his twentieth year. In 1783, on his return to Maryland from the army, he studied law in the office of William H. Dorsey, in Georgetown. He subsequently removed to Taney town, and in that small village commenced his professional career, whence he soon after came to Fredericktown, where he acquired a very extensive practice.

His manners were popular; his life had been full of thrilling incidents; the fortunes of a soldier attracted public attention; and his friends soon clustered around him, feeling strong interest in his welfare. Politics now excited the general attention, and in '95 he was elected to the house of delegates of his native State. In 1800, and oftentimes afterward, did the voice of Frederick county return him to the same seat with renewed marks of favor and approbation. In one of the warmly contested campaigns, when he was opposed by a very influential man, he discovered that the immense assemblage which had collected at Westminster to hear the candidates on the hustings, was somewhat unfavorable to his pretensions, and that he was likely to lose their support. All his arguments seemed to avail but little. Suddenly he opened his bosom and dis-

played to their view the scars received at Camden ; it operated like an electric shock ; he at once wielded the multitude with the same effect as did Anthony when he bid the Romans look on the dead body of Caesar, and by this happy stratagem ensured his election by a triumphant majority. During Mr. Jefferson's administration, Mr. Nelson was chosen representative to Congress, from the district composed of Frederick, Washington, and Allegany counties, and notwithstanding frequent opposition, so great was his popularity that he never lost an election. During all this stormy period of our history, when the unjust decrees of Bonaparte on the one hand, and the British orders in council on the other, were destroying neutral commerce, and depriving us of our natural right to navigate the ocean, Mr. Nelson stood up the bold, uncompromising advocate of all the measures adopted by the administration to protect our commerce. And when naught but an appeal to the sword would avail, we find him advocating the declaration of war in June, 1812, with all the zeal he had displayed in early life. He believed that all negotiation was fruitless, and he relied on the courage and patriotism of our gallant seamen and soldiers to vindicate our wrongs. The result equalled his expectations. Soon our banner was respected in every sea. Hull, Decatur, Bainbridge, and Perry, taught Britannia that she did not "rule the waves," while the plains of Bridgewater and Orleans evinced yet to the world that the fire of the revolution was not extinct. Before the war closed, however, declining health compelled Mr. Nelson to retire from political life.

In 1793 he organized a troop of cavalry, and in 1794 was, as its commander, actively engaged in suppressing the insurrection in Pennsylvania during the administration of Washington, and some years afterwards was appointed a brigadier general of militia. He died in May 1815. Such is an imperfect outline of the public life of Gen. Roger Nelson. That he was a brave soldier and tried patriot must be conceded by all ; that throughout his long and arduous career in the political world, love of country was the first and last wish of his heart cannot be denied. As a lawyer he was not profound, but with a jury of Frederick county he was irresistible. His popularity was so deep-rooted, and his manner so persuasive, and withal laying hold of the strong points of a cause, he would in a few minutes make so deep an impression on the minds of those who heard him, that his ablest opponents would endeavor in vain to eradicate it. But in popular assemblies, few men in Maryland were more powerful ; he wielded the passions of the multitude with the hand of a master ; he could never be vanquished when on the hustings. Bred up amid the bustle of camps, and the clangor of arms, he seemed to court the storm and commotion of our elections, and as the blast became more terrible, so was he more self-collected and firm.

MISCELLANY.

THE EDDYSTONE.—We feel pleasure in stating that, through an examination by the competent authorities sent here from the Trinity Board, it is ascertained that the Eddystone Light House has not sustained the slightest injury during the late severe storm. The report forwarded from this port to London, that it was feared that the light house had been severely damaged, created, as might have been imagined, great sensation ; and an engineer (Mr. Burgess,) and a member of the Trinity Board, were immediately despatched to ascertain the extent of the injuries, and preparations were made to place a floating light near the rock if it should be found necessary. We are enabled to state, from what we consider undoubted authority, that it has been found that the noble structure has not received the slightest damage.—*Plymouth Herald.*

COMPLIMENTS TO QUEEN ADELAIDE.—An officer of the U. S. ship of war Cyane, writes to the Boston Post, that she was at Malta, when the Dowager Queen of England arrived in the Hastings 74, and that she was much pleased with the salute given by the American vessel. He then relates the following :

Our Captain has had a very severe attack of the gout, under which he is still laboring. The queen's barge passed us the other day, her Captain steering, when the English Commander rose, and inquired in behalf of the queen for Capt. P.'s health. Capt. P. answered for himself, and holding up his crutches, flourished them in the air, as the crew cheered the queen from the yards. Her majesty was pleased to bestow upon us some of her sweetest smiles.

Preparations for foreign war are in progress. A circular from the Recruiting Department of the Horse Guards, directs commanding officers to recruit their respective regiments, if stationed at home, to "their full establishment of and if abroad, not in India, to "769 rank and file ; "739 rank and file"; and this order is to be executed "with the least possible delay." Another announcement of the week is, that several ships of war are to be put in commission, and fitted for immediate service. Among them is the Powerful, to be commanded by the gallant Captain Napier, and sent to the Mediterranean.—*London Spectator.*

A CURIOUS CASE.—Among the numerous petitions presented to the House of Representatives of the United States, on Monday, the 4th Feb., was one from the family of a poor carpenter who was killed by a cannon shot in the attack of the Leopard upon the Chesapeake, in 1807. This petition represents that by an arrangement made between the British and American Governments, the former agree to make a satisfactory pecuniary provision for the families of the persons killed and wounded in the affair ; that the British Government, accordingly, obtained the necessary evidence as to the identity of the individuals to be remunerated, and holds itself ready to make "satisfactory provision" at any time when the American government will say that the provision tendered is "satisfactory." The Government of the United States refuses to say any thing in the matter. The British Government insists that, by the arrangement, it is bound to "satisfy," the United States, and that the United States must say that the provision offered is "satisfactory." Thus has the matter stood for two and thirty years ; about as queer a piece of diplomatic punctilio as was ever heard of.

IRON STEAMER.—The Liverpool Albion of the 21st January contains a description of the performance of an iron steamer, the Robert F. Stockton, built for the Delaware and Raritan Canal Company, of New Jersey. The Albion says—

"We are gratified in giving the results of some of her first experiments on the Thames. On Saturday week she was on the river with a party of about thirty gentlemen, invited to witness her performance, all of whom were quite astonished at her speed, nine miles being run, with the tide, in thirty-five minutes. Suppose 2 1-2 miles allowance for the tide, there would be left full twelve miles an hour for the speed of the boat. But her triumphant experiment was made on Wednesday last, when she was put to the task she was designed for, showing her power for towing.

"Four loaded coal-barges were made fast to the Robert F. Stockton, making, in all, 59 feet 1 inch beam with square ends and upright sides, besides the steamer. All ridiculed the idea of attempting, with so small a boat, to tow such an immense ugly mass ; and the coal-heavers swore they would 'eat her if

she moved them at all.' In less than one minute from the starting of the engine, it was at the speed of forty-nine revolutions in a minute, and actually towed the whole one measured mile in eleven minutes, the water being perfectly still."

The frigate *Inconstant*, Captain Pring, arrived at Halifax, 17th Feb., from Cork, with detachments of the 69th and 37th regiments. The remainder of the former had already arrived from Barbadoes, the latter from Jamaica.

EXTRAORDINARY PASSAGE.—We mentioned on Thursday the arrival of the frigate *Inconstant*, Capt. Pring, at Halifax, with troops. We learn from our correspondent that the whole passage was made in 21 days from Cork, but that soundings were reached off Sable island on the *eleventh* day. From this point to Halifax the run is sometimes made in 24 hours; and if the *Inconstant* had been as fortunate to the end as she was in crossing the Atlantic, she would have made the passage in 12 days.

We further learn from our correspondent that the *Hercules 74* was hourly expected at Halifax, from Portsmouth, with the 2d battalion of the rifle brigade. The Nova Scotians, and especially the people of Halifax, are kept in high good humor by these constant arrivals of troops, as well on account of the gaiety and animation their presence causes, as of the impulse given to all kinds of business. The expenditures of each regiment are calculated at about £4,000 per annum, and as there are generally three or four regiments stationed at Halifax, the circulation of money is kept up very freely.

The harbor of Halifax was completely closed with ice on the 9th inst., so that vessels could neither get in nor out, and loaded teams were constantly crossing on the frozen bridge provided for them by Jack Frost.—*New York Com. Advertiser*.

RUSSIAN RAILROAD.—We are under obligation to a gentleman, thoroughly acquainted with some of the principal railroads in Europe, for the following notice of the rail road from St. Petersburg to Zarskoe-Selo and Pawlowsk.—*Boston Daily Advertiser*.

Capital expended: five millions of roubles assigned, or 1,050,000 dollars.

Total length, 17 English miles.

Months.	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS,		GROSS INCOME.	
	between St. Petersburg & Zarskoe-Selo.	between Zarskoe-Selo and Pawlowsk.	Roubles.	Cop.
1838.				
May	50,820	9,350	92,805	20
June	83,030	33,664	155,385	—
July	66,469	24,118	114,130	40
August	73,191	26,038	124,759	90
September	63,515	16,134	99,705	54
October	44,896	4,911	59,887	30
November	35,732	2,869	56,867	14

Total for 7 ms. 417,653 117,134 703,540 48

The line from St. Petersburg to Zarskoe-Selo was opened on the 4th of April; the line from Zarskoe-Selo to Pawlowsk on the 22d of May, 1838, Russian calendar.

There are four different classes of passenger cars, with the following prices:

First class, for 15 miles to Zarskoe-Selo	50 cts.
Second class, for do	37½
Third class, for do	25
Fourth class, for do	12½

As the greatest number of passengers prefer to take seats in the third and fourth classes, the average receipt from each passenger going 15 miles to Zarskoe-Selo was 31 cents, or two cents per mile.

The gross income of the above mentioned 7 months was 14 per cent. of the whole capital invested in the railroad; but the expenses of working the line being so heavy, the Directors declared only a half yearly dividend of *four per cent.* on the shares.

We observe, that it has been ascertained, that the number of passengers between St. Petersburg and Zarskoe-Selo was, before the construction of the rail road, equal to 178,000 per year, while on the rail road their number will not be less than 550,000 to 600,000. This great increase arises, without doubt, from the reduction of prices, the stages having charged 68 cents; this is now reduced to an average of 31 cents.

RUSSIA AND CIRCASSIA.—The following is an extract of a letter dated Odessa, Dec. 13, published in the *Commerce* of Paris:

After a short suspension, the Circassians have recommenced hostilities. By letters from Anapa we learn that, on Nov. 24, a corps of 3,000 Circassian horse of the tribes of the Abazas and Tichetsenets, commanded by the Abazian Prince, Dury Ichnio, and the Russian deserter, Petrowaki, made an incursion into the plains of Alazane, where the Russians have lately established military veteran colonies, and sacked eighteen of the new villages, massacring all the men and aged women, and carrying off to the mountains the young women, with all the cattle. Contrary to their custom, they refrained from burning the houses, with the single exception of an old Hetman of the Cossacks, named Wiezzuline, against whom they had a rooted animosity on account of some act of treachery committed by him. The Cossacks of the line and those of the Don, under Gen. Orloff, marched to the assistance of the colonists, but they had scarcely come within the boundaries of the plane, than they were attacked by the Tichetsenets, and driven back, with a loss in killed and wounded estimated at 4,000 men. The colonists massacred are said to amount to 1,500. This event has so much alarmed the Russian generals, that they have resolved to act only on the defensive, and have concentrated their forces at Tiflis, Derbent, Anapa, and Soukoun Kale. Desertion from the Russian army increases daily; the regiment of Imeretia alone has lost no fewer than 240 men between October 1st and November 29th. In Georgia discontent has risen to a great height. In many parts of this province the inhabitants have murdered the tax-gatherers, and the soldiers who endeavored to protect them. The governor general has called in a numerous body of Don Cossacks of the Black sea; although considered to be the most faithful and the bravest troops of the whole army, have been kept at a distance from the line of the Caucasus, because it has been found that they have a strong repugnance to act against the Circassians. It is positively stated that a distinguished Polish officer of high rank, whose name for the present we are obliged to suppress, is on his way to the Circassians, by whom he has been invited to lead them against the Russians. He is said to be accompanied by several other officers. General Grabiec has sent off an express from Anapa to Saint Petersburg, demanding a considerable reinforcement of troops.

THE TURKISH FLEET.—The admiralty have issued a circular to the older passed midshipmen and mates, offering them employment in the Turkish navy, with a step of rank *while so employed*, without, however, as we understand, any guarantee of future promotion in the British navy.

MORTALITY OF GENERAL OFFICERS IN FRANCE.—During the last forty-five years, viz: from 1792 to 1837, it has been calculated that 281 French generals have died a violent death; of these 170 fell on the field of battle; 55 died in consequence of their wounds; 20 were sentenced to death, and shot; 13 were assassinated, and 14 committed suicide.

OFFICIAL ARMY REGISTER, 1839.—Just published and for sale at this office. Price 50 cents. March 7.

WASHINGTON CITY;
THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1839.

We have copied from the Missouri Saturday News the comments of the editor of that paper (Major ALPHONSO WETMORE, late a Paymaster in the army) on the occasion of a request by the Committee of Pensions of the Senate, to be discharged from the further consideration of his petition.

We are not astonished at the indignation manifested by the Major, who bears a high character for gallantry and rectitude; for sooth to say, the deaf ear turned upon petitioners for justice is well calculated to arouse that feeling of disappointment, arising from "hope deferred, which maketh the heart sick." While claimants are knocking at the doors of Congress, asking but for their just rights, the members within are engaged in disreputable personal altercations, or in party electioneering. The time has passed by when members of Congress were regarded as a superior order of beings, the *elite* of the country. There are some, whom it would have been more to the credit and interest of the nation to have left at home.

Major WETMORE has committed one error, which deserves correction: Congress was not in session at the time of the conflagration of the capitol; that event occurred on the night of the 24th of August, 1814, (and well do we remember it.) An extra session was immediately afterwards called, and rooms provided for its deliberation in the building then occupied by the General Post Office.

POSTAGE.—We are requested by a correspondent to give our ideas on this head, and we do so readily. On all communications of general interest to the profession or to the public, or transmitting intelligence, we are ever willing to pay postage. But on such as are of interest to a particular corps, or branch of service—when grievances are complained of, or abuses pointed out—the writers should pay the postage on their own letters. It may, perhaps, be difficult to decide what communications are of general, and what of partial, interest. Among the latter we should class the two last communications, received from the writer who puts the query to us—each of them charged 75 cents.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Mar. 9—Lieut. E. P. Scammon, Top. Engrs., Fuller's.
Capt. G. H. Crosmen, A. Q. M. do.
11—Lt. Col. G. Talcott, Ordnance, Gadsby's.
12—Major E. A. Hitchcock, 8th inf., Fuller's.

PASSENGERS.

CHARLESTON, March 9, per steam packet Gov. Dudley, from Wilmington, Gen. Wool, U. S. A., and servant; Major A. S. Macomb.

We learn that the first division of Pennsylvania militia under the command of Major General Patterson, promptly volunteered their services to the President, under the act recently passed by Congress, to raise fifty thousand men.—*Philadelphia Herald*.

Mr. R. Ogden Glover, of this city, has received the appointment of Secretary to the Pacific Squadron, and will embark in the frigate *Constitution*, at Norfolk.—*N. Y. American*.

COMMUNICATIONS.

ESPRIT DE CORPS.

It is to be deplored that there is not more *esprit de corps* in the army, or rather that this *esprit de corps* has not more influence over the personal intercourse of officers.

What is this *esprit de corps*? We do not know the exact technical meaning attached to it by the lexicographers; and we have no dictionary near us to which we can refer for satisfaction. But, nevertheless, the phrase carries a definite idea to our minds, and we think we know its acceptation among military men generally. By *esprit de corps* we understand that *spirit*—that feeling which, with regard to the profession of arms, makes us proud of that profession, jealous of its reputation, prompt to notice and to resent any indignity offered to it, either directly or indirectly, and solicitous to advance its interests. These are some of the effects of *esprit de corps* among military men. When properly cherished, and when entertained by liberal and sensible men, who know its value, and its liability to misuse, it is productive of the most beneficial results. We do not wish to see this feeling so narrow and prejudice the minds of officers as to cause them to believe that, compared with the military profession, all other professions and callings are low and menial, and worthy only of ignoble spirits. We do not wish officers to think that the army comprehends all the chivalry, all the generosity, all the magnanimity, and all the talent and learning of the country. If this were the effect of *esprit de corps*, we should deprecate it as the very worst enemy to the army. But within the limits proposed, and with reasonable restrictions, this spirit certainly merits encouragement, for its legitimate tendency is to elevate and dignify the profession of arms.

We are gratified to observe among the officers generally, with whom we have had the honor to serve, a good degree of liberal and generous *esprit de corps*. But candor, and a faint, but sincere, hope of remedying the evil, force us to admit that there is a lamentable deficiency of *esprit de corps* among some officers in one respect. We allude to the manner in which we have heard some officers speak of other officers, to citizens who were ignorant of the characters of either party. It is a source of the most painful humiliation to us to bear testimony to the fact that some officers have been known to speak to citizens in terms of the most unqualified disparagement of some of their military comrades. It is due to our profession to say that this practice is by no means general in the army. On the contrary, it is rather rare. But it notwithstanding prevails among some officers who, in other points, are very worthy, unexceptionable gentlemen. But is not their conduct in this regard an evidence of a want of reflection or of judgment? We hope, we believe, it is; and for the very reason that we do attribute this harshness of language towards brother officers to thoughtlessness, or to an incapacity for mental combination and inference, we are induced to write this brief article; for if we thought that the few who indulge in the reprehensible practice under consideration did so for the gratification of malice or ill-will, then their cases would belong to those hopeless ones which arise from a deep-seated ineradicable depravity of heart. But, as before intimated, we think it far otherwise; and this thought is parent to the hope that the practice we are discussing will soon be forever discontinued, as alike fatal to the peace of those who indulge in it, and injurious to the fair fame of the military profession.

We beseech those officers who are in the habit of endeavoring to impress citizens with an unfavorable opinion of certain of their companions in arms, to reflect for a short time, seriously and rationally upon their conduct. One of two results from this course must obtain: you will either succeed in your efforts,

or you will fail. In either case the citizen's idea of the officers as a body will be lowered; for if you succeed he will think it a disgrace to the army that it should contain such members as you describe—and if you fail, your efforts will recoil upon your own devoted heads, and the citizens will conceive the opinion of you that you labored to give them concerning the objects of your dislike—the same unfortunate result, therefore, accruing to the profession as before.

It should be constantly borne in the recollection of officers, that our profession is a very peculiar one, perfectly *sui generis*. Now lawyers, physicians, merchants, clergymen, and even tradesmen, should have enough professional pride to prevent them from publicly abusing their brethren in profession or calling.

But this *esprit de corps*—so essential to the harmony and the reputation of all bodies of men—is doubly, is indispensably so among officers of the army. They form a separate, an isolated body of men. Our profession is entirely distinct from, and totally unlike, all others. All other professions have some resemblance to each other in some point or another. Among other things, they are all peaceful employments; but ours is a warlike profession; and its chief use is in war, which introduces a totally different state of things from those which obtain in peace. Hence, with regard to other professions, we are "as wide as the poles asunder." But this very isolation, this very peculiarity, places us on an eminence, and thus exposes us to the prying gaze of the community. The eyes of the world are turned towards us, and any departure from the path of rectitude or propriety by an officer, is more conspicuous and excites more comment than would the slightest aberration by a civilian; the truth of which assertion can be proved by a reference to recent defalcations and rumors of defalcations. For these reasons, officers should be very cautious of the manner in which they speak of each other to persons not connected with the profession. The latter, either from jealousy, envy, or prejudice, but more frequently from curiosity, catch greedily at all reports and insinuations prejudicial to the character of officers; and so disconnected are we from civil calling, and so distinct a family do we form, that what is said to the disparagement of a particular member of the profession reflects very materially on the officers as a body. It cannot be said that we wish to encourage duplicity or deception; that we would have any person to "ascend to the seventh heaven" in praise of others of whom his real opinion is contemptuous. The principle which we recommend is detailed in a short sentence: When you can say nothing good in favor of a brother officer, *keep silent*. If you are required to say something, dwell on the favorable points in a character, but let nothing, except the safety or happiness of others, extort from you the discreditable features; for remember that you thereby injure your own profession.

There is another way in which the practice spoken of injures the profession. Among gentlemen who are inimical to each other, it is the universal practice for any two personal enemies to decline expressing any opinion in public concerning each other, unless that opinion is favorable. Now citizens, seeing officers who flagrantly violate this rule, draw the inference that officers generally are ignorant of the etiquette of life. Again, we think that officers of the different corps and regiments, and of the same corps and regiments, talk too much about each other among themselves. We too frequently see graduates of the Military Academy bringing their West Point prejudices against particular individuals of their class, and of other classes, into the army, and striving to prejudice older officers against persons whom they dislike. This should never be done. The person attempting it gains himself no credit by it. Let men come, and if they are unworthy, as you represent them, it will be known; if they are worthy, they will be esteemed accordingly.

In the remarks we have made on this subject, we have not sought to wound the feelings of any officers. What we have said was dictated solely through our esteem for the profession, and a sincere desire to benefit it. We trust that the errors on which we have commented—errors which carry in their train consequences of more magnitude than would be thought at the first glance—may be abandoned. If they regard us as forming a distinct family, let us show them that the members of this family have each other's honor and reputation deeply at heart.

AN OFFICER OF THE 3D ARTILLERY.

INSCRIPTIONS OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

No. 1.

[WRITTEN FOR THE NAVAL MAGAZINE, BY THE AUTHOR OF "A JOURNEY FROM VIENNA TO BELGRADE," AND FURNISHED FOR PUBLICATION IN THE ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.]

Few travellers visit Constantinople without being struck with the simple elegance of her cemeteries, where repose so many millions of departed Islamites. In approaching the city from the sea of Marmora, they gaze with delight upon the tall cypresses which seem to watch over the offspring of those who planted them; or, as they gracefully bend their heads before the chill blasts of the Euxine, to weep over those whose tombs are sheltered under their ever-green foliage! Here and there, in the great city or its suburbs, they observe a spot of fair nature, which, let the season be what it may, bears the same hue; whilst the fading structures of art around them, bear evidence of the frailty of man's endeavors to construct a dwelling for the living, compared with the unchanging one which they make for the departed.

The east is the Eden of the imagination, and though full of recollections of past ages of glory, of riches, and of splendor, the traveller now seeks in vain for something new. Her languages are expressive of beautiful thoughts and ideas; but of these he is either ignorant, or their oriental form being so distinct from those of the west, they offer no beauties to him; her books also are yet unknown except to the student; most of them remain untranslated, for were they literally transposed they would be, from difference of idiom, unpleasing; and if remodelled so as to suit the comprehension of the west, they would be no longer oriental.

Reform is far busier at work in Constantinople than many would suppose who are not residents there. In a few years, so much may it have wrought, that even her inscriptions will have assumed a new and modish form. The *Caouks* of the Janissaries have now nearly disappeared from the cemeteries; the *culahs* of the Derviches, the graceful *turbans* of the Effendis, and the more splendid *rolls* of the Imaïns, are fast giving way to the red *Fez* of the present reign. But as yet the same sculpture remains, as formerly; and the simple epitaph tells the traveller who reposes beneath the gilded marble slab.

The writer undertakes to give a few translations of the epitaphs, though without knowing what favor a work having its origin among the dead, may find among the living. They are specimens from among the tombs of the humble ranks of the people, for there only can the true character be learnt.

I commenced my walks at the cemetery of Rumely Hissar, on the European side of the Bosphorus. A high cliff overhangs it, and a cluster of Death's coronals—the never-fading cypress—standing up among the monuments, through which were occasionally visible the rugged rocks, producing a most romantic effect; here and there was a white marble pillar, with a lofty turban and inscriptions in letters of gold, an humble tomb without any insignia of rank or vocation, a rudely carved basket of fruit, or a bunch of flowers, showed the grave of the unpretending female. Three stones, as with us, form the common tomb; one, lying prostrate, covers the

body, and two rise at the head and feet, that at the head bearing the inscription. Around, rose the high minarets of the adjoining mosques; a village was at either side; the paved road passes in front, and beside it flowed the rippling water of the Bosphorus. Across its stream were the hills of Asia, the towers of the Conqueror of the Greeks, the valley of celestial waters, and the villa of Candilly. No wall encircled the objects of my visit, no bier, no death's head and ghastly bones, carved upon the cold insensible marble, frightened me away from the repose of the departed. The evening breeze murmured thro' the cypresses and pine branches, and these fair but sad trees appeared not the least injured by the effect of time, though they had outlived many generations, descendants of those who planted them. A mother sat gazing at the opposite shore, whilst her children played among the green grass round the tombs; an old man was similarly employed with myself, that is, in reading inscriptions; and what with the songs of the birds among the trees, and the voices of passers by, it was any thing than a melancholy spot.

No wonder the Mussulman is thoughtful and contemplative. His mind may dwell untiringly upon the tenets of his religion, which is full of reality and romance; and what seems to the traveller complications, are to him its dearest mysteries. From the rising of the sun until its setting, like the circle of time, every hour, every minute of his life, has its peculiar meditations and devotions. It is an angel which gave to him, yet in embryo, the human form, inspired it with life, and a spirit, and traced upon his brow whatever the Omniscient destined for him. Thus, what is to us lost in the hidden and the unknown, to the Mussulman is clear as day. His days are watched by guardian angels; by them he is preserved from evil; by them he is instigated to the performance of what is good and just. At the sun's rising, two of them offer up prayers for the devout and the liberal; when he performs his ablutions and prays, two intercede for him; throughout the day they continue to attend upon him, and they register his good deeds tenfold. Inspired laws point out to him not only his duties between man and man, but even those of his own domestic and private home; his repose is even watched over by an invisible guardian, and though he be poor and needy, what is to him the last and blessed of volumes quiets his mind by the prospect which it offers him, of comforts and sensual enjoyments at the close of his earthly career. At his decease two angels of Death visit him in his tomb, and receive a confession of his creed, viz: "My God is Allah, my Prophet Mahomed, my religion Islam, and my altar the Caaba." It is a meritorious action to assist in carrying his corpse to its grave, and how often in his walks has the traveller seen a pious Mussulman devoutly water the wild flowers which had sprung up round the tomb of some departed stranger.

How then can the Mussulman fear death? Why should his life be embittered with any misgivings of his future state? Suppose a Christian in his place—would he not run headlong into all the excesses which would shorten his mortal existence; feel no restraint; but thoughtlessly "seize the moment as it flies?" The Mussulman acts very differently, he calmly meets pleasures, and the reverses of fortune with a philosophic indifference; for they are nothing compared to the unchangeable and unending joys which await him; the grave appals him not, and he only avoids it as the close of his transitory earthly happiness.

Most epitaphs commence alike, viz: with the name of the Deity, and one or more of his attributes. The word *Hou* or *Houah*, I interpret Him, and is probably the Jehovah of the Hebrews. To change the form of expression would be to rob them, in the eyes of the traveller, of their greatest characteristic. The word *by, by!* is in Turkish peculiarly pathetic,

and signifies alas! alas! One would suppose that the deceased had written his or her own epitaph, for in the east the survivor never offers a pompous panegyric as in the west; and it would seem only a dying lament, such as the Phoenix is said to offer upon her funeral pyre. They are always in rhyme, full of sensibility, and more of tranquil resignation than actuated sorrow. Sometimes, however, the lament is in the name of a parent or a friend, as in the following:

"*Him, the Eternal!*"

HALIL,
My beloved child,
I will often weep
Over this marble.
RAOUP BEY.
1239."

"*Him, one, and Immortal!*"

The moon was dim,
When her last parting beams fell
Upon thy cold icy frame.
Scarcely hadst thou entered thy 7th year,
DEAREST FATIMAH,
My tears had dimmed my eyes,
With a veil so thick,
That I no longer saw that moon,
For it faded with thee from my sight
On the borders of thy tomb.
1239.

"*Immortal and Only God!*"

Loved image of Joy!
How oft have these arms pressed thy form!
But the Eternal,
For his own wise end,
Deprived me of my all on earth,
MY ADIJAH.
Loved daughter, and my only child,
When the breath of Divinity
Reanimates thy ashes,
Then will we meet again.
Bear with thee, to the home of the blest
This tear, which I shed on thy untimely tomb,
It will not be the last.
1189.

"*Him, the Only God!*"

My young and fresh AYESHA is no more!
by! by!
Suffering has withered my heart,
by! by!
Sun of the early morn
Shed thy rays upon her tomb,
by! by!
My father, Talin Aga, and his wife,
Are drowned in tears,
by! by!
Who will console thy mourning parents?
by! by!
Fly to thy happy Paradise.
Shanal the 6, 1242.

"*Him, the Supreme!*"

The Pilgrim of Mecca, HOSREN BEY, weeps o'er the tomb of his wife, who expired 7 days after the birth of her infant child. The All Powerful will give her spirit to drink from the cup of the Blest. May she meet in Paradise her Fatimah—alas! they are no more. 1235."

"*Him, the living Eternal!*"

Under these rose marbles, at the foot of these cypresses, among these rose trees, I have buried my treasure—my ZIVAH. She trembled not on the border of the garden of the Faithful; she already knew that the Kiosk and the Serag of joy were prepared for her abode. Ayesha, 1227."

"*Him, the Immortal!*"

Learn what is found on the ocean, and on the dry land; sleep not; pray; labor from morning till night, that spirit of darkness may not surprise thee; be faithful, and reveal thy secret to no one; act justly, so that the prayers of the just may accompany thee to the other

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world. God! shed thy light over thy slave, SHEM-SEDDEEN, at the day of judgment, that he may drink of the nectar which thou hast promised to the elect of Mecca, and of the Prophet, the well beloved."

"Infinite God!"

Scarce had I reached my 18th year when I resembled a rose caressed by the zephyr's breath, that I was forced to leave my inconsolable mother, Sadika Khatoun. She possesses now only her daughter's name, FATIJAH. Often did the sweet nightingale visit this garden, to sing his loves upon the cypress which now shadows my tomb, and how often did I imitate his voice when singing the verses of the Koran. 1230."

ANOTHER.

"Ah! my mother! surely the melancholy owl, which, awakened by the storm, interrupts the silence of the tomb, perched upon thy roof to shriek when the arrow of the plague pierced my heart. Scarce had I time to embrace thee and my brother, ere my spirit was called away: repeat for me the first verses of the Koran. Mehmed, 1233."

ANOTHER.

"Like the innocent kid, which leaves its fold at daylight to follow the shepherd on the green plains of Alem-dagh, I left my dwelling in the morning, with the hope of returning at night to my paternal home. Evening came, but the plague had brought me to this tomb. Thou, who regardest this humble stone, offer thy prayers for me, SALIKA. (Here follows a chronogram.)

Fi jenet el ferdus meskina Salihah.

90. 453. 31. 270. 70. 170. 91. 37. 5. 1227, A. H."

The cenotaphs of the Emperors, and some other dignitaries, are placed in turbehs or mausoleums. They are covered with shawls of Cashmere, or embroidered silk from the Caaba at Mecca; near them are large and tall wax tapers, seldom or never lighted. The epitaphs are simple, merely giving the name of the sultan who preceded them; their own name; when they mounted the throne; how long each reigned, and date of their decease. The walls are covered with inscriptions from the chapters of the Koran, and the children of the defunct lie entombed around them.

The following is an epitaph of a young girl whose lover or husband had forsaken her:

"Passer by! if thy looks are turned towards this stone, offer a sigh to the fate of SAYDAY HARRUM, victim of love and misfortune. My well beloved placed this marble at my feet; he left me, but his marble is faithful to my love."

The belief in the efficacy of talismans, horoscopes, and sacrifices, is shown in the following:

"Like the butterfly which lights upon the roses of spring with glittering wings, I pressed my lips to thine, my dearest EMENEH. The garlic which I hung upon thy bed, the talismans which I hung upon thy breast, and the lamb with ebony fleece which I sacrificed for thee at Bayram, could not protect thee from the arrow of destiny."

The influence of the "Evil Eye" is credited throughout the east, and particularly among the Turks. Indeed, much occurs there towards converting the traveller to admit the same. It is pretended that a head of garlic will preserve a child from witchcraft, or the charms which the eyes of some people are supposed to effect, particularly those of aged females; another (instance of opposition to the west.) It is called in Turkish "Genz Dey mek lik," which means the evil influence of the eyes of those who, being unfortunate themselves, bring misfortune without knowing it, on all those upon whom their looks are directed. A Turk who sees a beautiful child, must not utter any exclamation of admiration without first saying "Machallah!" which is equivalent to our "God be praised!" for in that case the child might die notwithstanding the garlic or talismans. For still better preservation, the fond mother makes a black spot on her beautiful child's brow, so that

when any one admires it, the mark may recall the apprehensions, and cause the beholder to make the desired exclamation, or feign to spit upon it three times, thus appearing to think it ugly. Talismans are common, and every child has one or more attached to its neck or hair; they are stones on which are engraved passages from the Koran. They recall the "San Nicholas," "Santa Marias," &c., of the Catholics, worn about them for the same purpose. The East has ever been scourged with dreadful maladies, "pestilences which walk in darkness, and consume at noon-day," and bring man to his grave, as it were, before his time. Even the climate does not always agree with foreigners, and sudden deaths, without any apparent cause, are not unfrequent. Egypt, in particular, has suffered from the anger of the Omnipotent; and it and Arabia are the birth-place of Islamism, and the parents of superstition. The Mussulman learns from his mother to look to the morrow with no certainty of their living; and his "Inchallah!" "If God pleases!" is founded upon his early instruction. The high-handed measures of "power" may also deprive him of his all when least expected; from the same source he may be raised from poverty to wealth and honors in a moment, and thus he is a firm believer in fate or destiny, "Kismet" and "Takdir."

Among other superstitions of the humbler classes of people in the east, are the following: A reversed shoe predicts sickness to the owner; when both are reversed, he is sure to be carried off by it. A drop of oil falling from a lamp on the floor, at the moment of lighting it, predicts misfortune to the traveller to whom it may belong, and this latter person must let no one cross his path when he first sets out upon his journey, lest it bring upon him some evil.

Astrology is as much in favor there now, as in the days of the Sassanians, and even the "Sultan of the World" consults the stars for an "Eshref-saat," or fortunate hour, to insure the success of his undertaking. There are also "evil hours," unfortunate moments, which continually threaten the unwary. The following is an epitaph in which the horoscope is mentioned:

"In saying Alas! Alas! torrents of tears fall from the eyes of thy mother, my young TAYOR. Alas! a thousand times regretted child, near thy cradle I had drawn thy horoscope soon after thy birth, and the morning star appeared upon its face, with a shade so dark, as to make me shudder. Then I presaged that thou wert not a flower which would flourish in the garden of thy mother. 1175.

Besides those of soft and tender laments for the deceased, there are epitaphs on the tombs of Janissaries, quite original in their cast. Nothing can be more characteristic than the following, of the "ruling passion strong in death:"

"Insensible and cruel enemy, tramp not with disdain the handful of earth which covers me! Thou hast seen my blood flow with the pleasure of a pilgrim, when, in the burning Desert of Arabia, he sees flow the fresh and limpid stream. Canst thou depend upon (receiving) the honors of sepulchre? Perhaps another, as cruel as thyself, will break the reed which has signed thy death, and made thee food for fish. OMAR AGA, of the 31 Orta, 1205.

He here alludes to the custom of consigning the bodies of felons to the Bosphorus, and of destroying the reed after it had signed a death warrant. This resembles the preceding:

"I have bathed my heart in the tears of my enemies, and yet one has shed my blood on the sands of this stream. Thou who haltest near this tomb, pronounce not one by! for my fate, condemn not my ashes; for the hour which I lived after their death, was to me an age of happiness. ABDALLAH AGA, 35 Orta, 1203."

The last epitaph is erected by a master over one of his scholars:

"Pay attention, oh! people of this wicked world, one day you are alive, the next you meet Sengil (one of the Angels of Death.) With sighs he rendered his soul to God, who in his omniscience took him to be a member of Paradise; he looked into the mirror of Death and saw his end: he tasted the cup of destruction, and passed into eternity. Pray for the soul of young AHMED, son of Usuf Pacha; his master loved him, and wrote his epitaph. 1246." B.

REVENUE CUTTER JEFFERSON.

MOBILE, Feb. 24, 1839.

MR. EDITOR: Your valuable Chronicle having become the faithful record of events relating to every branch of the Government force, you are requested to state, that the old revenue cutter "Jefferson," from her great draft of water, and unsuitableness to this coast and climate, has been judiciously withdrawn by the Secretary of the Treasury, and superceded by a fine new vessel, (continuing the same venerated name,) of easy draft of water and spacious quarters for men and officers, so essential to health in our warm climate. In justice to her officers and crew, I will briefly state the operations of the old vessel since detached from the command of Commo. Dallas's squadron, 20th Oct. 1837, and ordered to this district, subject to the orders of Col. John B. Hogan, the Collector.

She has boarded and examined upwards of six hundred sail of vessels, in her revenue duties; has rescued from great peril and wreck two ships and two schooners; and raised and restored a schooner, sunk in the bay, where all on board perished; and saved a large portion of cargo from a brig, totally wrecked; has been called on and suppressed disorders, progressing to mutiny, in two foreign and eight American ships; and, as evidence of her constant motion, the anchor has been weighed more than five hundred and fifty times, to make sail; and last, and least, she detained and brought up the "long, low, black schooner," Mitchell, master.

From the great distance of the anchorage from town, and the facilities to infract our revenue laws, one or more officers are almost daily detached as inspectors.

The officers of the new Jefferson, at present, are, WINSLOW FOSTER, *Captain*, Charles Grover, *1st Lieutenant*, J. J. Morrison, *3d Lieutenant*, and — McLean, *2d Lieutenant*, understood to be ordered, and daily expected.

You are requested to give this unvarnished statement an insertion, and oblige

A SUBSCRIBER.

THE LATE CADET J. MOLYNEUX.

At a meeting of the First Class of Cadets of the U. S. Military Academy, held at West Point, on the 24th of Feb., 1839, to take measures relative to the death of their classmate, Cadet JAMES MOLYNEUX, of New York, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we deeply condole with the friends of the late Cadet JAMES MOLYNEUX, of New York, in the loss which they have sustained. His death is an event calculated to excite in all our hearts the strongest emotions. Possessing a rich and cultivated intellect, and the more rare gift of a warm and generous heart, he was snatched away at the very threshold of the career which he had chosen, and which he was so well calculated to adorn. Bound to him by the ties of intimacy and affection—ties scarcely less strong than those of consanguinity, we are sensible of our inability to express fully our feelings at the sad event which has so suddenly separated us from a beloved classmate; from one who has been our constant companion for the last four years; and who was endowed with the highest qualities which can adorn the officer, the gentleman, and the scholar.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to write to the relations of the deceased, to express the deep sympathy we feel with them in the event which has depriv-

ed them of an amiable and affectionate brother, and us of a talented and esteemed associate.

Resolved, That as a tribute of respect, we will wear the usual badge of mourning, and, with the consent of his friends, will erect a monument over his remains in testimony of our regard for the many virtues which adorned his character.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Army and Navy Chronicle, and the Lockport papers.

HENRY L. SMITH, *Chairman*.

ISAAC J. STEVENS, *Secretary*.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

FLORIDA WAR.

An officer of the army who reached Savannah on the 5th instant, informs the editor of Georgian that Lieut. Mackall, of the 1st artillery, was shot at a few days before, by Indians, while on Biscayne beach, and received two balls through the body, but we are pleased to learn that the wounds are not considered mortal. He was in company with Capt. Trathen, of the steamer Poinsett, and his men were about 200 yards distant at the time. The savages fired from a thicket and escaped.

We regret to state also that Major Noel, of the 6th infantry, shot himself accidentally with his own pistol a few days since, while on a scouting party against Indians, a few of whom were taken prisoners. Major N. had his pistol cocked, and going off unexpectedly, it inflicted on him a dangerous wound.

A correspondent of the Columbus Sentinel and Herald, writes from Tallahassee, under date of the 16th ult., and says—"Major Mapes and Captain Heintzelman, of the army, returned on yesterday from St. Andrew's Bay, and state that from 300 to 400 Creeks are known to be encamped on the north arm of that bay! There is a military fort there, comprising two companies of regulars, in all forty-two men!! The houses are 'few and far between' in that section of country; and many murders will undoubtedly be perpetrated; nor should the citizens of St. Joseph or Apalachicola sleep unmindful of danger, or unprepared for its approach."

ST. AUGUSTINE, Feb. 28.—By letter of the 12th Feb., we have received the following from Middle Florida.

The news reached Tallahassee on the 10th, by a wagoner, that eleven regulars had been killed some few miles from the military station on Econfina.

On the morning of the same day, an express arrived at Tallahassee, for a surgeon to attend to a planter and his wife, who had been wounded by the rifles of the Indians, ten miles from that city, on the road to St. Augustine. The fire was discovered through the blocks of the house, and was fatal to a young man by the name of White, the son, it is said, of the injured. By having several guns in the house, the Indians were kept out and finally driven off.

On the 8th, about an hour by sun, some thirty savages approached the dwelling of Mr. Stokes, about 15 miles from Monticello. Mr. S. was absent from home driving cattle, and two boys near the houses, seeing the savages, cried out so that a young woman in the door had sufficient time to make her escape, in company with the lads. They state that the Indians were sufficiently near to have fired upon them, but as they did not, it is supposed that they are out of ammunition. The dwelling was plundered and burnt.

Straggling Indians have been seen every week during the last two months about the Hickstown settlements, or in the neighborhood of the Oscilla, and as they have frequent opportunity and yet commit few outrages, it has become a common belief in the country, that the enemy are without powder.—Herald.

The brig Robert Bruce, Ayres, of Baltimore, was lost at Indian river on the 6th ult. The Government stores were saved. Hull and spars sold for \$75. —*News.*

From the St. Augustine News, Feb. 23.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE.—Lieut. McKINSTRY, with 1 company 2d infantry, garrisons Fort Brook, on the Ocklawaha.

Col. FANNING, with several companies of the 4th artillery, has charge of the defence of the frontier.

Col. FANNING has scoured all the hammocks of the right bank of the Ocklawaha. No Indians to be found. There have been a number about a month since, to judge from their wig-wams.

Extract of a letter from an Officer of the Army, dated "FORT ———", Feb 10, 1839.

"I have, since I left St. Augustine, been almost constantly on the move. From Fort Fanning, I was ordered to Deadman's Bay, thence to Finholloway (40 miles further West,) then back again to Fort Fanning. At Finholloway I joined Gen. Taylor, and returned in company with him as far as Fort Fanning. While at that post, the General submitted to the War Department the outline of a plan, which, if adopted, will, I feel certain, close this war in less than one year.

"The outline is this: He will first divide the whole country from Tallahassee to Fort King, into military districts, of not more than 20 miles square. In the centre of each district, or at such a point as will best command it, he will establish a post, which shall be occupied by 20 men. Of these 20 men, ten shall be mounted, whose duty it will be to scout every other day, so that all the hammocks in the district will be visited, and thoroughly scoured at least once a week. The other ten will perform garrison duty. In determining the contiguity of these posts, the General will of course be governed very much by the character of the country. For example, in those districts in which swamp and hammock abound, it will be necessary to establish them not more than ten miles apart; while, in open pine regions, it will be scarcely necessary to establish any posts. The General calculates that the force which he now has in the Territory will be sufficient to cover the whole region above mentioned, in the manner here described; besides leaving him two regiments disposable for the field, in case he deem it expedient (after having thus afforded complete protection to the whole frontier,) to operate during the spring and summer, in the more Southern portion of the Territory. If, after this plan shall have been put in operation, and the settlements thus effectually protected, (which the General calculates may be done in less than two months,) the Indians should still hold out, he will then call for such an increase of force as will enable him to cover, in a similar manner, the whole Southern portion of the Territory, and thus bring them to certain, and complete subjection. The great advantages of this plan over any other that has yet been executed or suggested, must be obvious to any one at all conversant with the character and history of this war. Heretofore, our operations have always been of a partial character;—while we were making extensive and unwieldy movements in a few districts of the Territory, the Indians were allowed to live at their ease, or to murder the inhabitants in all the rest. It is certain, however, that our great ignorance of even the general topography of the country, afforded ample apology for such ineffective movements. That the present plan will afford prompt and certain protection to all the settlements, I feel quite sure. Indians that would not hesitate to cross a chain of posts, even were these posts not more than half a mile apart, will never dare, even in a temporary visit, to penetrate a region that is studded with posts—and systematically scoured by mounted men. If the

whole Territory were at once covered in the manner here proposed, the war might, in my opinion, be closed in one week. Although no country in the world is more bountiful than this, in affording to the Indian the means of support, yet some little time is required to procure and prepare what is necessary even to his simple wants—and that little time would not be allowed him under a plan of operations so general, and so systematic as that proposed. This plan will also have a very excellent moral effect on the Army; every officer of a district having his task defined, and his location fixed, will be prompted, both by a sense of pride and responsibility, to keep his district clear of Indians, and to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the minute topography of its hammocks. Heretofore, the hammocks have generally been skirted, but not scoured. An officer had but little encouragement; after a march on foot of perhaps 20 miles, to undergo the drudgery of scouring a large hammock, when he knew that there were several others in the vicinity, to which the Indians could, at any moment, retreat with safety, and in which, owing to a want of systematic scouts, they might remain undisturbed for months, if not for years. In fact, 'that which was every man's business was no man's business,' and although a hammock might chance to be thoroughly scoured to-day, as it was no man's specific duty to visit that hammock again perhaps for months,—it generally happened that many large hammocks were never scoured more than once, and some not at all, during a whole campaign. It is needless to say that the Indians could never have been harassed or starved, and consequently never subdued, by such desultory and planless movements as these. I am, therefore, not in the least discouraged by the failure of our previous campaigns; for if we had succeeded, it appears to me it could only have been a mere accident. We have now a good general knowledge of the topography of the country; we have the lights of three years sad experience to guide us, and we have a plan devised, which if carried into execution, cannot, in my opinion, fail to harass, starve, and subdue the enemy in one short campaign. It is the General's intention to locate the new posts in healthy situations, in the pine barrens, and to occupy them during the summer months.

From the Missouri Republican.

COLONEL TAYLOR AND THE MISSOURI VOLUNTEERS.—The report of Mr. Atchison, from the committee appointed to investigate the charges against the Missouri Volunteers, contained in Col. Z. Taylor's report of the battle of Okeechobee, concludes with the following resolutions. We may hereafter publish their report:

1st. *Resolved*, By the Senate and House of Representatives, that the conduct of the Missouri Volunteers and spies, in the Florida campaign, was such as only could be expected from good soldiers and brave men.

2d. *Resolved*, That so much of Col. Z. Taylor's report of the battle of Okeechobee, which charges that the Missouri Volunteers and spies mostly broke and fell back to the baggage, and that the repeated efforts of his staff could not rally them, is proved to be unfounded, not to say intentionally false, and that so much of said report which states that the regular troops were joined by Captain Gilliam and Lieut. Blakey, with a few men, but not until they had suffered severely, is incorrect, in this—that Gilliam and Blakey were in advance of the regular troops during most of the fight, and never in the rear.

3d. *Resolved*, That so much of said report, which states that the Missouri Volunteers and spies behaved themselves as well, or better, than troops of that description generally do, is not so much a compliment to them, as a slander upon citizen soldiers generally.

4th. *Resolved*, That Colonel Taylor, in his report of the battle of Okeechobee, has done manifest injustice to the Missouri Volunteers and spies, and that said report was not founded upon facts as they occurred.

5th. *Resolved*, That a commanding officer who has wantonly misrepresented the conduct of men who gallantly sustained him in battle, is unworthy a commission in the army of the United States.

6th. *Resolved*, That the Governor of the State be required to lay before the President of the United States the evidence reported to the House, in relation to the conduct of the Missouri Volunteers and spies in the Florida campaign, and Colonel Z. Taylor's report of the battle of Okeechobee, and that he solicit, on the part of this State, a court of inquiry into the conduct of the Missouri Volunteers and spies, and the truth of said report.

7th. *Resolved*, That the Governor of the State be required to lay before the President of the United States a statement of facts relative to the treatment of the spies under Colonel Morgan and Captain Sconce: 1st. As it regards the fact of the organization of said command into a spy battalion, under the order of Colonel Taylor. 2d. His subsequent acknowledgment and recognition of said corps. 3d. The performance of arduous duty by the officers of said battalion under the requisition of Colonel Taylor. 4th. Their subsequent discharge as privates, and the pay that they received as such. 5th. The necessity of adopting some course to obtain redress.

LITTLE ROCK, Feb. 20.—We learn, from Fort Gibson, that the 7th infantry were to leave that post on the 7th inst., to proceed to Fort Smith, where it was intended to wait for a rise of water for conveyance to Florida. The 4th infantry arrived at Fort Gibson on the 6th, and were to take possession of the works on the following day. The latter regiment is commanded by Major Bennet Riley, and the former by Lieut. Col. Wm. Whistler.

Another detachment of the 4th infantry, to the number of about 150, arrived here on Friday last, on the steamboat Bee, on their way to Fort Gibson. They are now encamped at the U. S. warehouse above town, and, we understand, proceed to their destination on foot in a few days.

Major Lear, of this regiment, arrived on the same boat.—*Gazette*.

THE 7TH INFANTRY.—The main body of this regiment arrived here on keel boats, on Wednesday last, from Fort Gibson, where it has been stationed for nearly 20 years past. The troops were encamped on the opposite side of the river, till Friday, when they left, being towed down from this place by the steamboat Little Rock, bound to Tampa Bay, Florida, to endure their share of the miseries which the army seems doomed to encounter in hunting out a few vagabond Seminoles. The companies embraced in this body were A, B, C, D, E, G, H, I, and K, one company having preceded them a few weeks since.

The officers accompanying the regiment were Col. Whistler, commanding; Major McIntosh; Captains Hawkins, Seawell, Raines, Moore, and Holmes; Lieut. Whiting and assistant Surgeons Mills, Moore, and Suter.

The men were in good health, and we were pleased to see that they were cleanly and comfortably dressed, although some of them had permitted their moustaches to grow, which had a very filthy appearance.—*Ibid*, Feb. 27.

PENSACOLA, March 2.—The U. S. sloop of war *Levant*, Hiram Paulding, Esq., Comd't, arrived here on Tuesday last from Vera Cruz, whence she sailed on the 14th ult.

The following is a list of the officers attached to the U. S. sloop of war *Boston*:

EDWARD B. BABBIT, Esq., *Commander*; E. W. Moore, S. W. Wilkinson, J. J. B. Walbach, *Lieutenants*; F. B. Renshaw, *Sailing Master*; Peyton A. Southall, *Purser*; W. A. W. Spottswood, *Surgeon*; E. C. Conway, *Ass't Surgeon*; J. Rutledge, J. C. Howell, J. H. Brown, J. C. Briceland, J. Guest, E.

Weyman, D. R. Lambert, N. B. Harrison, *Midshipmen*; A. Tabb, *Captain's Clerk*; B. Prescott, *Purser's Steward*; G. Ellison, *Boatswain*; J. Doymen, *Gunner*; J. Reynolds, *Carpenter*.

Midshipmen George M. Comegys, and E. Z. C. Judson, late of the *Boston*, left her and joined the U. S. schr. *Wave*, at Havana.

We are requested to state that the U. S. sloop of war *Lexington* sailed from the port of Mazatlan, west coast of Mexico, on the 4th of December last, with about \$25,000 on board, direct for Valparaiso; all well.—*Gazette*.

CASE OF AMERICAN SAILORS AT HAVANA.—The newspapers are giving different versions of the case of the American seamen at Havana. The facts as we have ascertained are, that sometime since a part of the crew of the American ship *Wm. Engs* were charged by the captain with mutiny and delivered to the American consul, who desired the civil authority at Havana to dispose of the men. They were accordingly tried and sentenced to labor in the streets of Havana. Upon the arrival of the *Boston* the five men found means of writing to Capt. Babbit and informing him of their condition—they complained of being unfairly tried, denied counsel, and averred their innocence. A correspondence ensued between the Consul, the Captain General of Havana, and Capt. Babbit. Nothing conclusive was effected, and the whole subject has been referred to the Government.—*Pensacola Gazette*.

LATEST FROM MAINE.—General Scott and suite arrived at Augusta, the capital of Maine, on the evening of the 6th inst. The Maine Legislature appear determined to exercise every description of jurisdiction. They have passed a law for continuing the Houlton road to the Aroostook river, and in the House of Representatives a bill has been introduced to incorporate the county of Aroostook, with Houlton for the shire town—and embracing the disputed territory. All accounts concur in representing the Maine soldiers as a body of noble looking and able bodied men.

The Governor has received officially the message of the President and the protocol, accompanied by a letter from the Secretary of State, reiterating the recommendations of the protocol or "memorandum."

No communication had been yet made to the Legislature in relation to the movement at Washington. It was expected however, that the Governor would lay the documents before the two Houses on Friday. The correspondent of the *Boston Atlas* says that "the feeling is very strong among the people through the State that our troops ought not to be withdrawn from the disputed territory until the line is settled. Maine has now possession of a portion of the territory in dispute, and she cannot, with honor, abandon that possession, as requested by the President, and I do not think our Governor will recommend it."

We have received news from Houlton up to as late as 10 o'clock, March 5. Capt. Nye had then just arrived at that place from Jarvis's encampment, and reports that more trespassers had been arrested and brought into the camp, with their supplies, teams, &c. Among those arrested is Fitzherbert, who is to be sent to Bangor to be tried for being an accomplice with, and assisting the trespassers in the abduction of the land agent, McIntyre. Jarvis is building a boom across the Aroostook, to catch the timber cut by the trespassers, as it comes down on the breaking up of the river. The British troops at the mouth of the Aroostook are blocking up the portage road by the falls, by felling trees, and throwing in other obstructions. Jarvis is blocking up the westerly end of it in the same manner. This road is the great outlet leading from the Aroostook country to the Provinces.

Captain Nye reports that the 11th regiment of

British regulars had arrived at Madawaska from Quebec, at which former place they were stationed. It was also reported and believed at Houlton, that troops had arrived at St. Johns from Halifax, and that the Provincial papers had been forbidden to report the fact. The British appear to be concentrating their troops upon the St. John above the grand falls. Nearly all the troops under Gen. Hodsdon had left Houlton for Jarvis's encampment. As yet no notice appears to have been taken by Maine of the President's message.—*Philadelphia Ledger*.

Extract of a letter from General St. John B. L. Skinner, dated PLATTSBURGH, Feb. 26, 1839.

His Excellency WM. H. SEWARD:

I have the honor to report to your Excellency, that on Sunday night, 24th inst., the building occupied by the U. S. troops at Rouse's Point, in this county, was consumed by fire, together with the dwelling house of Messrs Norton and White. The fire was first discovered in the north end of the barrack building, where no fire had been kept by soldiers, and spread with such rapidity that it was impossible to prevent the entire destruction of the two buildings mentioned. A considerable quantity of military stores were also destroyed. The prevailing opinion seems to be that the building was set on fire, but whether by the "Patriots," or the Canadian volunteers, or by some individual, is difficult to determine. There, however, appears to be some cause for believing it may have been the work of some one or more of a party of volunteers stationed in Odletown. Several of this party came on Sunday to Comer's store, (situated directly upon the line, partly in Canada and partly in the United States,) and raised a British flag, with much cheering, &c. Several others were at Merchon's tavern, some mile and a half this side of the line, and in the immediate neighborhood of the barracks, Sunday afternoon and evening, drinking and carousing until a late hour; and immediately after the alarm of fire was given, an individual, resembling the volunteers in dress and appearance, particularly the large cap worn by them, was seen running through the fields to the north.—*Albany Evening Journal*.

CASE OF MAJOR A. WETMORE,

LATE OF THE U. S. ARMY.

From the *Missouri Saturday News*.

Twenty-fifth Congress, third session, in Senate, Saturday, February 2, 1839. Mr. PRENTISS, from the Committee on Pensions, asked to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Alphonso Wetmore.

The petition named above was addressed to the Senate of the United States by the editor of this paper, for increase of his pension, for loss of his right arm in battle, when he was an ensign in the 23d regiment, U. S. Infantry, in the first campaign of the last war. This magnanimous republic has allowed him *thirteen dollars* per month for a part of the time, since he sustained this injury; four years of the period it has been withheld, by some pettifogger's quibble. The petition prayed Congress to increase his allowance so as to bear something like a fair parallel to the pensions given by law, to others who sacrificed limbs, in the same manner; and to allow him the arrears of pension. This is not the first, although it is certainly the last petition with which he will ever tax Congress, on this or any other claim.

With our own private affairs we would not afflict our readers; but, when it so happens that the claims of an individual, however humble, are connected with the general interest, or policy of the republic, we may be pardoned for thrusting upon the consideration of our countrymen, a notice of the wrongs which have been patiently suffered for more than a quarter of a century.

If the sum of thirteen dollars per month is as much

as this nation can afford to pay an army officer for the loss of a limb at the mouth of the enemy's cannon, it is certainly proper to apprise our citizens of the fact, that they may understand on what terms they engage in the service of the United States; and as a public journalist, we deem it a duty to give this, as well as other passages of intelligence, for their government.

Falstaff remarked, very justly, of his new levies which he abducted from prisons, that they were suitable "food for powder, food for powder!" but it might be hoped that freemen who offer themselves, with high-toned sentiments and suitable devotion, in the service of a free country, should be rated a little higher, in the military market, when they are fortunate enough to escape the fate of those who "fill a ditch."

Taking a dispassionate view of the individual members of Congress, who constitute a majority in the two branches of the National Legislature, alike under all administrations, from the presidency of Washington to the present time, we should not do them, or truth, injustice, by suggesting, that they have, collectively, about as much public virtue, and nearly as much patriotism, as NERO had when he played first fiddle over the burning fragments of the ancient city of Rome.

It would, perhaps, be presumption for a subaltern to hope for better treatment than General Sinclair received from a Government which he served with distinction, and virtuous purposes. If a general of this republic was doomed to tend a turnpike gate for his subsistence, after having exhausted the vigor of youth and a fortune, in the service of his country, an obscure subaltern might be mute, when his poetic reminiscences revert to the period of suffering which he endured with cheerfulness, as he was lulled to repose by the roar of the cataract of Niagara, over which his blood was flowing, mingled and diluted with a volume of waters. It would be vain presumption to think of himself, while the resting place of Washington is not marked with at least a pyramid, and the representatives of the people exhaust the treasury in contending for high places, and emolument, when more than half of them richly merit the fate which Benedict Arnold luckily escaped.

The walls within which the deliberations of Congress are held, if memory is indulged with a place in the distracted brains of *honorable* members, might admonish them with what nervous haste their illustrious predecessors once left the capital of their country; and the smoking ruins of that national edifice, the dark spots of which still remain on our escutcheon, once intimated the value of military virtues, when the fugitive representatives of the people disgraced their country and themselves, as they looked back, furtively, over their shoulders, upon the conflagration of the capitol, basely abandoned by them, to their enemies! the result of parsimony and cowardice, the two cardinal virtues of Congressmen.

If, in the forays of the red-skins, a solitary horse is taken from a settlement, where a community of feeling or interest may secure votes, the most efficient measures are taken to insure remuneration, and members become profoundly pathetic in the cause of such sufferers; even *Amy Darden's* horse was ultimately paid for. But a majority of men who usually obtrude themselves upon the people as their representatives in Congress, are of that mercenary and recreant character, who cannot appreciate the sentiments, or estimate the value, of a soldier, any more than they could the indelible disgrace of a fugitive flight from their burning capitol.

While Congress continues to treat the supplications of old soldiers, the intrinsic merits of whose claims demand their peculiar indulgence, as they do at present, we must cease to deem it marvellous that a naked band of Indians can baffle the army and militia of the republic for years, and ultimately prove, as

they have hitherto, unconquerable. As long as that mingled spirit of base covetousness, parsimony and mad profusion exists, which characterizes the legislation of Congress, we may never hope to see the ranks of the army filled, but remain as at this moment, with only two-thirds of its nominal force enlisted. It is only such loafers as usually afflict the people with supplication for their suffrages, that can be persuaded to enlist, while the halls of the National Legislature are crowded with them. So long as it is the custom to exhaust the treasury for the use of lean and hungry partisans, under all administrations, those soldiers who have bled, or who may suffer in the defence of their country, must be content to limp out, and browse upon the mountain side, or live on the products of their wits, or mendicity.

From the National Intelligencer.

PROPOSED SHIP CANAL ACROSS THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.—The following resolution, accompanied by a report and voluminous appendix, interspersed with sundry maps and diagrams, was presented to the House of Representatives from the Committee on Roads and Canals, by Mr. Mercer, on Saturday the 2d inst. The resolution was adopted by the House, and the report, &c. ordered to be printed:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to consider the expediency of opening or continuing negotiations with the Governments of other nations and particularly of those the territorial jurisdiction of which comprehends the Isthmus that connects North and South America; and to which the United States have accredited ministers or agents; for the purpose of ascertaining the practicability of opening a communication between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans by the construction of a Ship Canal across the Isthmus; and of securing forever, by suitable treaty stipulations, the free and equal right of navigating such Canal to all nations, on the payment of reasonable tolls.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Colonel.

J. G. Totten, Chief Engineer, Washington, and superintending construction of Fort Adams.

Lieutenant Colonels.

Sylvanus Thayer, superintending fortifications in Boston harbor—stationed at Boston.

R. E. De Russy, superintending fortifications in Hampton roads, and Fort Delaware—stationed at Old Point.

Majors.

John L. Smith, superintending fortifications in New York harbor.

Wm. H. Chase, superintending fortifications on the Gulf coast—Pensacola.

Richard Delafield, Superintendent Military Academy—West Point.

C. A. Ogden, superintending Cumberland road in Indiana and Illinois—Terre Haute, Inda.

Captains.

W. A. Eliason, awaiting orders.

H. Brewerton, superintending improvement of Hudson river—Troy, N. Y.

George Dutton, superintending Cumberland road in Ohio—Springfield, Ohio.

J. K. F. Mansfield, superintending Fort Pulaski—Savannah.

A. H. Bowman, superintending fortifications in harbor of Charleston, S. C.

Robert E. Lee, superintending improvements of St. Louis harbor, and Rapids of the Mississippi—St. Louis.

Alex. J. Swift, superintending Fort Caswell, Oak island—Wilmington, N. C.

Fred. A. Smith, assistant to Chief Engineer, Washington.

J. G. Barnard, assistant to Major Chase—Pensacola.

G. W. Cullum, superintendent of Fort Trumbull—New London.

Wm. Smith, superintending Fort Niagara—Rochester, N. Y.

John Sanders, superintendent of Ohio river above the falls—Pittsburg, Pa.

First Lieutenants.

C. H. Bigelow, assistant to Col. Thayer—Boston.

G. L. Welcker, assistant to Maj. Ogden—Terre Haute.

J. L. Mason, assistant to Col. Totten—Newport.

H. W. Benham, superintendent of Fort Marion and sea-wall at St. Augustine.

D. Leadbetter, assistant to Capt. Brewerton—Troy.

*M. C. Meigs, assistant to Col. De Russy—Philadelphia.

D. P. Woodbury, assistant to Capt. Dutton—Springfield, Ohio.

W. H. Wright, assistant to Col. Thayer—Boston.

Second Lieutenants.

P. G. T. Beauregard, assistant to Col. Totten—Newport.

J. H. Trapier, assistant to Capt. Mansfield—Savannah.

*S. H. Campbell, assistant to Col. De Russy—Old Point Comfort.

J. M. Scarritt, on duty in the field, Florida—Tampa Bay.

*On temporary duty with the Board of Engineers.

Captain GEORGE D. RAMSAY has been ordered to resume the command of the U. S. Arsenal at Frankford, Pa.

Lieut. Col. GEO. TALCOTT passed through this city a few days since on his way to North Carolina, to examine the U. S. arsenal now under construction at Fayetteville.

Brig. Gen. J. E. WOOL, Inspector General, accompanied by Lieut. A. S. MACOMB, A. D. C., as Assistant, has gone to the South on a tour of duty.

NAVY.

ORDERS.

Mar. 7—Mid. S. J. Shipley, Rec'g ship, New York.

9—Lieut. C. W. Pickering, det'd from steam ship Fulton.

Chaplain J. P. B. Wilmer, frigate Constitution.

Purser H. W. Greene, schr. Shark.

11—Gunner G. Newman, frigate Constitution, vice D. Kelly, detached on account of ill health.

12—Lieut. W. C. Whittle, Norfolk station.

Ass't Sur. C. A. Hassler, N. Yard, Washington.

Mid. E. A. Barnett, Naval School, Norfolk.

APPOINTMENT.

March 7—J. P. B. Wilmer, Chaplain.

RESIGNATION.

March 11—Charles J. Love, acting Midshipman.

DEATH.

In New York, on Saturday morning, ANNA RODGERS, infant daughter of Capt. M. C. PERRY, U. S. navy.

NOTICE.

PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the Commissary General of Purchases in Philadelphia, for supplying the following articles of **DRAGOON EQUIPMENTS**, viz:

400 Saddles, complete.

200 Bridles, with Martingales.

200 Saddle Bags.

200 pairs Spurs.

200 Halters, Head Stalls and Straps.

On the patterns exhibited at this office, the contracts will be founded and inspections made, and no article will be received that is inferior in material or workmanship, or that does not correspond in every respect with the pattern on which the contract is founded. The articles are to be delivered at the United States Arsenal, near Philadelphia, for inspection, in equal monthly proportions, and the contracts to be fulfilled on or before the first day of August, 1839, or earlier, if required for the service.

The proposals must be in writing, sealed and endorsed "Proposals" and must reach the office of the Commissary General of Purchases, on or before the 22d March, 1839. Security will be required for the fulfilment of contracts.

C. IRVINE,
Commissary General of Purchases.

COMMISSARY GENERAL'S OFFICE, } Feb. 28—td
Philadelphia, Feb. 23d, 1839. }

FOR RENT.—The office at present occupied by the subscriber, on 17th street, adjoining the Pension office. Possession given immediately.

Feb. 7—tf

B. HOMANS.